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NORTH CAROLINA HAS ITS FIRST POWERBALL JACKPOT WINNER!

-Winning Ticket Worth Over \$74 Million Sold in Halifax County-

RALEIGH – Some lucky person is going to make history holding the first Powerball jackpot winning ticket sold in North Carolina! That ticket is worth approximately \$74.5 million (\$74,451,965)! If the player elects to take a one time cash payment it would be \$36,071,688. One winning ticket matched all five numbers and the Powerball for last night's drawing.

"The winning ticket was purchased in Halifax County," said Tom Shaheen, North Carolina Education Lottery (NCEL) executive director. "For security and integrity purposes, the retailer that sold that ticket will not be announced until we complete our security and operational procedure checks."

The winner has yet to come forward. They have 180 days from the date of the drawing to claim their prize at NCEL headquarters in Raleigh.

There were also several other big winners in North Carolina for last night's drawing. One person holds a ticket worth \$200,000 for matching the five white balls, but not the Powerball. There were also six people that matched four of the white balls plus the Powerball, which is worth \$10,000.

It has been just six months since Powerball was launched in North Carolina. Since May 30, the NCEL has sold over \$150 million worth of Powerball tickets. The NCEL reached approximately \$2.1 million in sales for last night's Powerball drawing. Halifax County currently ranks 40th in overall NCEL ticket sales out of 100 counties.

For more information about the NCEL, visit its Web site at www.nc-educationlottery.org or call (919) 715-6886.

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100% of the North Carolina Education Lottery net proceeds are used for pre-kindergarten programs for at risk youth, reduction of class size in early grades, school construction and college scholarships for need-based individuals.

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